students

Breanna McCaa McComb, MS Shaquerrionna McCall-Alford Brookhaven, MS Kaitlyn McCarlie Summit, MS Michael McCollum Florence, MS Jordan McCraw Columbia, MS Chantel McCray McComb, MS Makayla McCue McComb, MS Dacota McDaniel Osyka, MS Ajah McGee Tylertown, MS Quincy McGee Hattisburg, MS Stormi McGovern Summit, MS **Timothy McGuire** Smithdale, MS Keith McKigney Maurepas, LA Raven McLean Tylertown, MS **Dalton McMillian** Kentwood, LA Jordan McNabb Kentwood, LA Taryn McNabb Kentwood, LA Keon McNeil McComb, MS Carlton McWilliams McComb, MS **Tyler Merritt** NASP Summit, MS Zoe Miller McComb, MS Kathleen Mills Richland, MS

Andrew Mir McComb, MS **Hunter Mire** Summit, MS **Amethyst Mitchell** Magnolia, MS

Damarcus Mitchell Thibodaux, LA Charbrielle Mitchell McComb, MS Alayna Moak Bogue Chitto, MS Braden Moak McCall Creek, MS **Braxton Moak** McCall Creek, MS



WE RING



marcus connolly

occer, or "futbol," as people in the UK call it, has been a part of life for Marcus Connolly since early childhood. For his seventh birthday, Marcus received his very own first soccer ball, and often played soccer with his older brothers, uncle, and father. When given a generous scholarship opportunity by Southwest, Marcus could not resist not only to play his favorite sport but also to study abroad and make new friends.

Marcus had a nine hour flight to southwest Mississippi from Scotland, and when he got to America it was "a bit of a culture shock." He was surprised when American stores "didn't add the sales tax on price tags until [he] got to the register to pay for them," and when the strange, ever changing Mississippi weather was "80 degrees one day and then 40 the next." When asked what he enjoyed most about America, Marcus said, "Scotland only has rugby, golf, or futbol, but here in America, you have something for everyone...so many sports and games. American food is very good too, especially pizza." Other than playing soccer, Marcus likes to play on his PlayStation and to run for exercise "like a maniac."

He aspires to become a physical therapist, training athletes to take care of their bodies. Though Marcus likes all sports, he lives, breathes, and eats for soccer. His diet is mainly protein and dairy, and he rarely munches on sweets. "I don't play for the money or to have a job, but for the sole purpose to play the sport I love. I feel like I belong on the field. I can relate to my futboll team at Southwest because even though there's a culture barrier; we're all united by our love for the same sport. We love what we do, and we work not only as a team, but also as a family...and that's beautiful." Marcus wants to attend either Mississippi College or another four year university to continue his education.

by Eva-Marie Luter



Soccer is not just a sport; it is my life.
- Marcus Connolly

